

SPEAKER'S LETTER FAVORING LOCAL APPOINTMENTS

THE SPEAKER'S ROOM
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 5, 1912.

Honorable Edwin A. Newman,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Newman:

I have received your letter and in reply will say that I believe the local offices of Washington ought to be filled by residents of this city. It would be strange indeed if out of 300,000 American citizens there could not be found a dozen or so who are fit to fill these offices.

I have always believed in home rule and have insisted on it in Washington as well as in Missouri.

Truly your friend,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

and can see no reasons why elections should not be made from the great body of splendid and capable democrats who reside in the District, when a democratic President comes to the appointment of offices for the District next year.

Capable Home Talent.

Senator George E. Chamberlain of Oregon disclaims any presidential aspirations and at the same time compliments the District highly on its capable citizens.

"In reply permit me to say first and foremost that I am not a candidate for the presidency or any other gift of the people of any state or of the country. I am satisfied to remain here, at least for the balance of my term, and attend to the business nearest the heart, not only of my immediate constituents, but of the people at large.

"A courteous letter, however, always demands a courteous reply, and I want to answer you frankly in reference to political independence. From other states in the Union upon the people of the District of Columbia. You have heard me say that I am not a candidate for the presidency or any other gift of the people of any state or of the country. I am satisfied to remain here, at least for the balance of my term, and attend to the business nearest the heart, not only of my immediate constituents, but of the people at large.

Foss Strong for Merit.

Gov. E. L. Foss of Massachusetts is of the opinion that appointees should be possible residents of the locality over which their authority is to sway.

"Your question, strictly speaking," says Gov. Foss, "does not apply to me, because I have made no declaration of candidacy, and I have not announced myself as a candidate for national honors of any sort. But I am delighted to have the opportunity of expressing my views in regard to the general question of appointments. Since my first election to this office I have strictly adhered to the rule of making appointments for fitness, and not for local position. Whether they belong to the district or not, I have no objection to their being appointed."

Whether the other Maine reliefs brought up on the Leonidas shall be unrolled at the Philadelphia yard or taken to be determined this afternoon. The original order to take them to Philadelphia was made on the ground that there was no available place to store them at the Washington yard, but it is now believed that there are ample facilities for storage.

None of the big 10-inch guns of the Maine are on the Leonidas.

The "surrender" in which any public servant is to be appointed to an important position is a matter of course. Partisan spirit alone should demand that all appointments be made from the ranks of the party to which the appointee belongs. The next consideration is that any man appointed to public office should be a resident of the locality over which he is to have some sort of authority. This is a matter of course, and it is a matter of course that the appointee should be a resident of the locality over which he is to have some sort of authority.

CONFERENCE ON PLANS FOR MONEY TRUST PROBE

Democratic Members of House Banking and Currency Committee Outlining Method of Procedure.

Democratic members of the committee on banking and currency met today and began consideration of plans for the investigation of the "money trust" as directed by the party caucus last Wednesday. Representative Pujos of Louisiana, chairman of the committee, said that the plan was not concluded, and that further conferences would be held.

Among the members of the committee who participated in the conference were Kindred of New York, Byrnes of South Carolina, Glass of Virginia, Moore of Texas, Bulkeley of Ohio, Doughton of North Carolina and Stephens of Mississippi.

Outline in Resolution.

The committee plans to introduce a resolution in the House within a few days which will give it power to conduct the inquiry, and this resolution will, it is said, direct the committee to inquire as to whether a "money trust" exists, and if not, it is said, charge that there is a "money trust." When the inquiry will be made is not known.

CRACKSMEN'S GANG CAUGHT.

Surprised While Preparing to Blow Safe in New York Grocery.

NEW YORK, February 9.—The gang of cracksmen who are believed to be responsible for the number of safe blowings that have kept the police busy for weeks were caught at work early today, but only surrendered after there was an exchange of shots.

ADDENDUM AT HAND SHERIDAN TESTED

Chinese Throne Expected to Quit Within the Week.

PRESIDENCY IS IN DOUBT

Gen. Li Yuen-Heng Now Regarded as Strong Possibility.

MAGNA CHARTA IS READY

Constitution of Republic, Prepared by Dr. Wu Tingfang, Awaits Only Approval of Senate.

SHANGHAI, China, February 9.—Tang Shao Yi, the representative of Premier Yuan Shih Kai, today declared that he was confident that the abdication of the throne would be an accomplished fact before February 18.

There appears to be less confidence now than there hitherto has been that Yuan Shih Kai will be selected for the presidency of the republic. On the other hand, the name of Gen. Li Yuen-Heng, the present vice president, is mentioned, and it is possible that he may be eventually selected.

The draft of the proposed magna charta of the new Chinese republic has been completed by Dr. Wu Tingfang, the minister of justice in the republican cabinet, and now awaits the approval of the Senate at Nanjing.

Five-Year Presidential Term.

The document provides for a presidential term of five years, but the senate probably will make the first term only one year.

It is thought that a compromise may be reached in the question of the future capital of China. President Sun Yat Sen, however, asserts positively that Nanjing will be selected, although he admits that an agreement may be made to keep Peking provisionally as the nominal capital.

Deadly outpost fighting continues in many places, but the reports as to the casualties are very much exaggerated on both sides. The fighting is now more serious fighting.

Kaiping Is Bombaraded.

MANCHURIAN, February 9.—The city of Kaiping, province of Chihli, was subjected to a severe bombardment today by the revolutionary troops. According to the latest reports, the town is in flames.

Attacking force of republican troops brought the heavy field guns into action, and for several hours fiercely shelled both the city and the fortress. Twenty-two guns were used in the bombardment, and the city was shelled by the general in command without trial on suspicion of collusion with the revolutionary commander.

American Note Welcomes.

COLOGNE, Germany, February 9.—"The American note," the German press declared, "is warmly welcomed by all striving in good faith toward a peaceful issue of the Chinese conflict," according to an inspired telegram from Berlin in today's Koelnische Zeitung.

"That German policy is thoroughly committed to such a practical program goes without saying."

Japanese Want Larger Interest.

TOKIO, Japan, February 9.—The nationalities in the Japanese diet today put up a strong plea for the acquisition of further interests in China by Japan, urging that the present was an excellent opportunity.

Viscount Uchida, the foreign minister, in reply, declared that everything in the circumstances had been done already.

Limitations of the title of emperor to the lifetime of the present monarch, instead of making it continuous, is one of the modifications of the terms of settlement which advises to the State Department today say Yuan Shih Kai is willing to accept. Likewise the present emperor is to be deposed and a new emperor is to be elected.

URGES MUZZLING OF DOGS.

Dr. Stimson Says No Animal Is Immune From Rabies.

Declaring that no dog is free of the danger of contracting rabies, Dr. A. M. Stimson, in an address at the Public Library last night, urged that all should be muzzled. After this an average request price is fixed, and this is sent with every car of meat shipped to branch houses.

Witness in Court Outlines Methods Employed by Swift & Co.

CHICAGO, February 9.—Methods used by Swift & Co. in the distribution and sale of dressed beef were explained to the jury in the packers' trial today by Lee M. Lester, assistant manager of the fresh meat department.

The company has 348 branch houses, 100 of which are in the city, and serve 12,000 small towns by car route systems, the witness said.

Test Cost First Considered.

Mr. Lester said the first step after the cattle were slaughtered was to figure the test cost. After this an average request price is fixed, and this is sent with every car of meat shipped to branch houses.

Cites Annual Practice.

Lester admitted that he frequently discussed the questions of test cost, shipments and margins with Francis A. Fowler, one of the defendants.

"If a certain branch house was getting poor prices would you cut down the shipments to that house?"

"That would be the usual practice, at least except when made," said Lester.

INJURIES WERE FATAL.

Physician Dies in Hospital Following Explosion of Gas.

ERIE, Pa., February 9.—Dr. Louis Henderson died in a hospital here today from injuries received a few hours earlier when a rubber tube connecting a gas stove in his room with a chandelier exploded.

SEE FOR TAFT HEARD BY COKE

Managers Claim Large Majority of Convention Votes.

MEET TO DISCUSS PLANS

Hilles, McKinley and Crane Hold Important Conference.

NOT GOING INTO DETAILS

Managers Content Themselves With Making Gross Claim of Votes Enough to Nominate.

This conference took place away from the White House. Mr. Hilles having been absent from his office during the day. The conference was for the purpose of outlining the Taft campaign and for considering the situation as it stands today.

Mr. Hilles, who has been in close touch with Taft leaders in each state, told his colleagues the facts as he knows them. The conclusion of the three men was that the President will have an easy victory in the convention.

No Details Furnished.

Not one detail as to how the figures were made up was given to the public. The mere announcement that the President is sure of 750 votes was all that was available. Explanations could not be had, because the three men were not going to let their conclusions be known.

as Figured for Taft.

The Taft claims, judging from the situation as viewed at the White House for some time, are summed up in the following states, with the votes they will have in the Chicago convention:

Alabama	21	New Jersey	28
Arkansas	18	New Mexico	28
California	21	New York	90
Colorado	18	North Carolina	28
Connecticut	14	Ohio	48
Delaware	6	Oklahoma	20
District of Columbia	3	Rhode Island	10
Florida	23	Tennessee	24
Georgia	23	Texas	40
Idaho	10	Vermont	8
Illinois	28	Virginia	16
Indiana	23	West Virginia	16
Iowa	23	Wisconsin	28
Kansas	23	Wyoming	10
Louisiana	23	Alaska	3
Maine	10	Hawaii	3
Maryland	16	Philippines	2
Massachusetts	23	Porto Rico	2
Michigan	23	Samoa	2
Minnesota	23	New Hampshire	8
Mississippi	23		
Missouri	23		
Montana	10		
Nebraska	23		
Nevada	10		
New Hampshire	8		
New Jersey	28		
New Mexico	28		
New York	90		
North Carolina	28		
Ohio	48		
Oklahoma	20		
Rhode Island	10		
Tennessee	24		
Texas	40		
Vermont	8		
Virginia	16		
West Virginia	16		
Wisconsin	28		
Wyoming	10		
Alaska	3		
Hawaii	3		
Philippines	2		
Porto Rico	2		
Samoa	2		
New Hampshire	8		

Deductions To Be Made.

From this list there are to be made deductions of delegates in Illinois to a considerable number, who will be for Roosevelt; in Michigan considerable deduction; the delegates for Roosevelt; Ohio, a few opposition delegates; Pennsylvania, with possibly one-third of its total of 78 votes, for Roosevelt; Virginia, a few anti-Taft delegates, with scattering anti-Taft delegates in some of the other states.

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WANT LAW TO BE AIR

Advocate of the Project.

Nathaniel Wilson appeared in favor of the widening, as the owner of a tract of land fronting on the right of way of the Benning electric line that runs along Benning road, and as representing the owners of an adjoining tract.

He pointed out, too, that at present the Benning road has no outlet to the public thoroughfare, because the right of way of the railway company is between it and Benning road.

Senator Martin suggested that the bill be framed to allow the W. & A. to widen its present terminal street to the street of the Benning road as proposed in the bill.

Mr. Wilson did not oppose that proposition.

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